BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP 350 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90071-3462

Certified Public Accountancy Partnership Certificate No. 6515

Respondent.

Case No. AC-2008-20

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the California Board of Accountancy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on

Aug 21, 2

It is so ORDERED

FOR THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

.			
1	Kamala D. Harris		
2	Attorney General of California LINDA K. SCHNEIDER		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General CARL W. SONNE, State Bar No. 116253		
	RON ESPINOZA, State Bar No. 176908		
4	Deputy Attorneys General 110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100		
5	San Diego, CA 92101		
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7	Telephone: (619) 645-3164 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
ŀ	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFOR	RETHE	
9	CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:		
12	DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP	Case No. AC-2008-20	
13	350 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 200	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
	Los Angeles, CA 90071-3462	DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
14	Certified Public Accountancy Partnership Certificate No. 6515		
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16	Respondent.		
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18	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
19	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
20	<u>PARTIES</u>		
21	I. Patti Bowers ("Complainant") is the Executive Officer of the California Board of		
22	Accountancy. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this		
23	matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Carl W. Sonne and		
24	Ron Espinoza, Deputy Attorneys General.		
25	2. Deloitte & Touche LLP ("Respondent" or "Deloitte") is represented in this		
26	proceeding by attorney Robert A. Meyer of Loeb & Loeb LLP, whose address is: 10100 Santa		
27	Monica Boulevard, Suite 2200, Los Angeles, CA 90067. Deloitte is acting in this proceeding		
28	through Jeffrey Jones, its authorized partner, and he has been designated and authorized by		

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (AC-2008-20)

 Deloitte to enter into this agreement on behalf of the firm (hereafter, "Authorized Representative").

3. On or about September 15, 1999, the California Board of Accountancy issued Certified Public Accountancy Partnership Certificate No. 6515² to Respondent Deloitte & Touche LLP. The Partnership Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. AC-2008-20, and will expire on September 30, 2011, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. AC-2008-20 was filed before the California Board of Accountancy ("CBA"), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on July 11, 2011. Respondent timely filed its Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. AC-2008-20 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent through its Authorized Representative has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. AC-2008-20.
 Respondent's Authorized Representative has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of its legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against it; the right to present evidence and to testify on its own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

¹ Mr. Jones is not otherwise involved in these proceedings and was not personally involved in the circumstances which gave rise to the Accusation in this matter.

² The terms "Partnership Certificate" and "license" refer to the authority granted to Respondent by the CBA to practice accountancy as a partnership in California, and the terms are used interchangeably herein.

7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. AC-2008-20.
- 9. Respondent agrees that its Partnership Certificate is subject to discipline, and it agrees to be bound by the CBA's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below. Respondent also agrees that a legal and factual basis exists for the imposition of the administrative penalty imposed in the Disciplinary Order below, and waives any claim to the contrary.

CIRCUMSTANCES IN MITIGATION

- 10. Several factors mitigate the conduct of Respondent alleged in the Accusation in this matter, including the following:
 - a. Deloitte has never been the subject of any prior disciplinary action by the CBA.
 - b. Deloitte is admitting responsibility at an early stage in these proceedings.
- c. During the investigation of this matter, Deloitte has been cooperative by producing documents voluntarily and by making written submissions for the admissibility of specific documentary evidence and testimony taken by the PCAOB.
- d. During the investigation of this matter, Deloitte admitted, for the purposes of this proceeding, extensive facts at issue in the PCAOB Order referenced in paragraph 9 of the Accusation (PCAOB Order).
- e. Prior to the issuance of the PCAOB Order, Deloitte proactively developed remedial measures, including the creation of a Leadership Oversight Committee (LOC), that significantly improved and enhanced its internal processes for identifying and responding to issues that bear upon the appropriate deployment of audit partners and directors, all of which reduce the risk of a recurrence of the events outlined in the PCAOB Order.
- f. A significant period of time has passed since the events outlined in the PCAOB Order, without any recurrence of similar events.

RESERVATION

11. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the California Board of Accountancy or other California professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

CONTINGENCY

- 12. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the California Board of Accountancy (CBA). Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the California Board of Accountancy may communicate directly with the CBA regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or its counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent's Authorized Representative understands and agrees that Deloitte may not withdraw its agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the CBA considers and acts upon it. If the CBA fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, and it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the CBA shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 13. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 14. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 15. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the CBA may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Certified Public Accountancy Partnership Certificate No. 6515 issued to Respondent Deloitte & Touche LLP is suspended for a period of thirty (30) days. However, the suspension is stayed, and Respondent is placed on probation for eighteen (18) months on the following terms and conditions.

- 1. Obey All Laws. Respondent shall obey all federal, California, other states' and local laws, including those rules relating to the practice of public accountancy in California.
- 2. Submit Written Reports. Respondent shall submit, within ten (10) days of completion of the quarter, written reports to the CBA on a form obtained from the CBA. During the period of probation, Respondent shall provide to the CBA copies of its current LOC minutes within thirty (30) days of their preparation. Respondent may redact from such minutes the names of its clients and persons who are the subject of review by its LOC, provided that such redactions shall not limit the CBA's ability to request or obtain unredacted LOC minutes pursuant to its general regulatory authority and investigative powers. Respondent shall also comply with all requirements imposed by the PCAOB Order and report such compliance to the CBA in its quarterly reports. Respondent shall submit, under penalty of perjury, such other written reports, declarations, and verification of actions as are required by the CBA. These declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the CBA.
- 3. Personal Appearances. Respondent shall, during the period of probation, appear in person through an authorized representative at interviews/meetings as directed by the CBA, provided such notification is accomplished in a timely manner.
- 4. Comply With Probation. Respondent shall fully comply with the terms and conditions of the probation imposed by the CBA and shall cooperate fully with the CBA in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with probation terms and conditions. Respondent shall identify a contact person or persons, including at a minimum a CBA licensee with a current, active license in California and whose primary office is in

California, who shall act on behalf of Respondent during the period of probation. Failure to complete the probationary requirements shall automatically extend the period of probation and the CBA shall have continuing jurisdiction of this matter until the condition is satisfied.

- 5. Practice Investigation. Respondent shall be subject to, and shall permit, practice investigation of the Respondent's professional practice. Such a practice investigation shall be conducted by representatives of the CBA, provided notification of such review is accomplished in a timely manner.
- 6. Comply With Citations. Respondent shall comply with all final orders resulting from citations issued by the CBA.
- 7. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the CBA, after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an accusation or a petition to revoke probation is filed against Respondent during probation, the CBA shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- 8. Completion of Probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license will be fully restored.
- 9. Administrative Penalty. Respondent shall pay to the CBA an administrative penalty in the amount of \$300,000.00. The payment of the administrative penalty shall be made to the CBA within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Order.
- 10. Dissemination of the Stipulated Settlement. Within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall disseminate this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order to all of its professional personnel officed in California and shall confirm such dissemination in writing to the CBA.
- 11. Cost Reimbursement. Respondent shall reimburse the CBA a sum not to exceed \$200,000 for its investigation and prosecution costs of this matter, including those costs of probation monitoring. The CBA will periodically present Respondent with a certified statement of costs to date, including additional costs incurred during probation, and Respondent shall pay those costs to the CBA within thirty (30) days thereafter. If costs are billed after the completion

of the probationary period, the obligation to pay the costs shall continue, but the probation shall not be extended thereby.

ACCEPTANCE

I, Jeffrey Jones, a partner of Deloitte & Touche LLP, have been authorized to act on Respondent's behalf in this matter, and have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with our attorney, Robert A. Meyer. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on Respondent's Partnership Certificate. On behalf of Respondent Deloitte & Touche LLP, I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and Deloitte agrees to be bound by the Decision and Order of the California Board of Accountancy.

DATED: July 12, 2011

FOODELOTTE & TOUCHE LLI

Respondent

Name: Jeffrey Jones

Title: Partner
Authorized Representative

I have read and fully discussed with Jeffrey Jones, the Authorized Representative of Respondent Deloitte & Touche LLP, the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 1/12/11

ROBERT A. MEYER, ESC Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the California Board of Accountancy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated: July 22011

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Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California JAMES M. LEDAKIS Supervising Deputy Attorney General

CARL W. SONNE Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. AC-2008-20

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California LINDA K. SCHNEIDER	
2		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General CARL W. SONNE, State Bar No. 116253	
4	RON ESPINOZA, State Bar No. 176908 Deputy Attorneys General	
5	110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101	
6	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266	
7	Telephone: (619) 645-3164 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061	
8	Attorneys for Complainant	
. 9	BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
10	STATE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
11	C N- A C 2000 20	
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. AC-2008-20	
13	DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP 350 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 200 A C C U S A T I O N	
14	Los Angeles, CA 90071-3462	
15	Certified Public Accountancy Partnership Certificate No. 6515	
16		
17	Respondent.	
18		
19	Complainant alleges:	
20	<u>PARTIES</u>	
21	1. Patti Bowers (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as	
22	the Executive Officer of the California Board of Accountancy, Department of Consumer Affairs,	
23	State of California.	
24	2. On or about September 15, 1999, the California Board of Accountancy issued	
25	Certified Public Accountancy Partnership Certificate No. 6515 to Deloitte & Touche LLP	
26	(Respondent). The certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges	
27	brought herein, and will expire on September 30, 2011, unless renewed.	
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JURISDICTION

3. This Accusation is brought before the California Board of Accountancy (Board or CBA), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

4. Code section 5100 states:

After notice and hearing the board may revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew any permit or certificate granted under Article 4 (commencing with Section 5070) and Article 5 (commencing with Section 5080), or may censure the holder of that permit or certificate for unprofessional conduct that includes, but is not limited to, one or any combination of the following causes:

(I) The imposition of any discipline, penalty, or sanction on a registered public accounting firm or any associated person of such firm, or both, or on any other holder of a permit, certificate, license, or other authority to practice in this state, by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board or the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, or their designees under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 or other federal legislation.

5. Code section 5116 states:

- (a) The board, after appropriate notice and an opportunity for hearing, may order any licensee or applicant for licensure or examination to pay an administrative penalty as provided in this article as part of any disciplinary proceeding or other proceeding provided for in this chapter.
- (b) The board may assess administrative penalties under one or more provisions of this article. However, the total administrative penalty to be paid by the licensee shall not exceed the amount of the highest administrative penalty authorized by this article.
- (c) The board shall adopt regulations to establish criteria for assessing administrative penalties based upon factors, including, but not limited to, actual and potential consumer harm, nature and severity of the violation, the role of the person in the violation, the person's ability to pay the administrative penalty, and the level of administrative penalty necessary to deter future violations of this chapter.
- (d) Administrative penalties assessed under this article shall be in addition to any other penalties or sanctions imposed on the licensee or other person, including, but not limited to, license revocation, license suspension, denial of the application for licensure, denial of the petition for reinstatement, or denial of admission to the licensing examination. Payment of these administrative penalties may be included as a condition of probation when probation is ordered.
- (e) All administrative penalties collected under this article shall be deposited in the Accountancy Fund.

issuing its audit report for the 2003 Ligand audit engagement, members of Respondent's management had determined that the Engagement Partner for the audit should not be assigned to public company audit engagements, and that he should resign from the firm. The PCAOB Order provided that despite these determinations, and Respondent's assessment that the 2003 Ligand audit engagement presented greater than normal risk, Respondent left the Engagement Partner in charge of the Ligand audit without taking appropriate and timely steps to assure that the audit was performed in accordance with applicable PCAOB rules and professional standards.

- 11. The PCAOB Order provided that Respondent failed to exercise due professional care in the performance of the audit, and failed to obtain sufficient competent evidential matter to support the opinion expressed in the audit report. The PCAOB Order also provided that subsequent to the 2003 Ligand audit, Ligand Pharmaceuticals restated its financial statements for the year 2003, recognizing approximately \$59 million less in revenues from product sales than originally reported (a decrease of approximately 52 percent), and reporting a net loss more than 2.5 times the net loss originally recognized in that year.
- 12. As a result of its findings, the PCAOB issued an order: (1) censuring Respondent; (2) imposing a civil monetary penalty against Respondent in the amount of \$1,000,000; and (3) requiring Respondent to maintain records in sufficient detail to describe its quality control policies and procedures for identifying and addressing potential audit quality concerns with regard to the performance and deployment of its audit partners and directors.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the CBA issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending or otherwise imposing discipline upon Certified Public Accountancy Partnership Certificate No. 6515 issued to Deloitte & Touche LLP;
- 2. Ordering Deloitte & Touche LLP to pay the California Board of Accountancy an administrative penalty pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 5116;

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